

of the illustrious house of Orange and Nassau, and acquired in part at the expense of their blood: that it was this family which formed and consolidated the present constitution of the republic, and which after extraordinary vicissitudes and revolutions, resembling in some measure the present, formerly rescued the United Provinces from the imminent dangers with which they were threatened, and re-established them in their former lustre.

It is, without doubt, on the preservation of this form of government, which has now so happily subsisted for two ages, and of which the stadtholdership is an inseparable part, that the happiness and safety of the republic depends. Every real patriot must be convinced of this truth. All the neighbouring powers appear equally apprised of it, and are affected to see such dangerous and unreasonable dissensions break out and increase within the United Provinces, the consequences of which must be fatal to the republic, as such have been to other states, when alike circumstanced: and the neighbouring powers are equally concerned in the support of the present system of government. The king indeed is more particularly so, as well by the ties of relationship, which connect him with the illustrious house of Orange, as because he is the nearest neighbour, and constant and sincere friend of the republic. His majesty is persuaded, and has the most positive assurances of it, that the prince stadtholder has the purest and most salutary views, for the good of the republic and for the support of the present constitution; and that if all designing persons attribute to him any other, it is by a fiction destitute of all probability, and injurious to his person and his understanding. That the prince will follow and execute invariably the system and principles adopted by the sovereign power of the United Provinces, and he will for the future remove even the suspicions of the contrary.

The undersigned envoy extraordinary has the honour to lay before your high mightinesses all those important considerations. He is charged, by the king's most particular orders, to recommend them to their most serious reflections, and to call upon them, to reject and lay aside every proposition tending to lessen the just prerogatives of the stadtholdership, or to change the established form of government, which has so long and happily subsisted, and that they will immediately take efficacious steps to stifle all internal dissensions, to stop factious enterprises, to suppress abusive novels, and to establish, not only necessary union, but likewise the authority and respect due to the prince stadtholder and other persons concerned in the government of the republic. His majesty flatters himself that their high mightinesses will receive and take in good part the representations of their neighbour, who is a real friend, and far from being indifferent to the happiness of the republic; one who will ever take the most warm and zealous interest in seeing its present state preserved.

At the Hague, January 20, 1783.

As there has been no attempt hitherto to take away any of the lawful prerogatives of the prince stadtholder, and as all recommendations of innovations till now only respect the remedying of abuses which had crept into the government of some cities and towns, we are yet to learn upon what grounds his Prussian majesty charges the design to take away his powers of general and admiral; no such proposition having come to the public ear.

PARIS, Jan. 13. The queen is again pregnant, which happy event gives great joy to the nation. We are assured, that it was by the order of this prince that general Washington was written to to save from death the unfortunate and innocent Agill, and that this captain, penetrated with the most lively gratitude, is setting out to Versailles, to thank in person, his august liberatrix, as well as the comte de Vergennes, who, impelled by duty and beneficence, hastened to be the instrument of it.

L O N D O N, January 28.

The foreign ministers were all at the levee at St. James's yesterday; a circumstance very novel, but supposed to be on account of the admission of the French plenipotentiary, and the Spanish (pro tempore) ambassador, till the terms of a general peace are ratified between the belligerent powers.

Yesterday morning the foreign ministers had a meeting at their hotel, in St. James's-street, when Monsieur de Rayneval was introduced, and complimented on his appointment from the court of Versailles.

The earl of Surrey is said to be fixed upon as ambassador to the United States of America.

The duke of Richmond and lord Keppel, it is said, will oppose the peace in the house of lords.

Monsieur Gerard de Rayneval, the new minister from the court of France, is not to act long in that capacity; as soon as the articles of peace are fully concluded, a person of more dignified rank will be sent over to our court, with the character of ambassador. The duke de Guignes, who filled that station when he was count de Guignes, is talked of as likely to visit St. James's once more in a public character; but the most prevailing opinion is, that the baron de Choiseul, late minister from his Most Christian Majesty to the court of Turin, will be sent over here with the same character.

When Dr. Franklin was about to sign the provisional treaty with Mr. Fitzherbert, at Paris, he begged to leave them for a few minutes, which he did, and returned soon after in an old suit of cloaths, instead of a rich suit in which he had just appeared. Being asked the reason of this extraordinary circumstance, the veteran answered—"It was in this suit that I abused me before the privy council, and in this suit I chuse to sign the treaty of American independence."

It is strongly asserted, that soon after the formal ratification of peace, the whole garrison of Gibraltar will be exchanged, and that upon their arrival in England, either honorary or pecuniary rewards will be conferred upon every individual concerned in the memorable defence of that fortress.

Ministers having founded the disposition of parliament, relative to Gibraltar, found that the cession of that fortress would not be borne; however, they have made a tolerable good sacrifice to Spain, in its stead; for, in order to save Gibraltar, they have ceded Minorca and the two Floridas to Spain, one of them indeed had already been reduced by that crown, but the other had not been so much as menaced; thus Gib-

ralter is preserved, but at a very heavy expence to this country.

Mr. Laurens, now at Bath, it is supposed, will be nominated ambassador to the British court, from the United States of America. Mr. Laurens, though armed with philosophical fortitude, laments the death of his eldest son. He has great consolation however, in the rising virtues of another.

Dr. Franklin has taken the lodgings in Surrey-street, which he occupied some years ago, and is expected in London in a few days.

Tincomale, which our ministers have insisted on keeping, is rated at ten millions value; so great is its importance, on account of traffic to the East Indies.

The reasons which have induced Holland to stand out, or to act singly in this business, have not, as yet, transpired, at least from any source of authority. The political speculators assign various causes for this conduct in the Dutch, the most probable of which is, that they insist upon pecuniary restitution for their loss of personal property in the island of St. Eustatius.

Russia with astonishing wisdom, makes the happiness of her people the great object of her politics. She has lately extended her commerce by a most advantageous treaty with Denmark. The losses of Great-Britain have alarmed all Europe, and commerce now seems the prevailing principle of every state.

The inhabitants who left Charles town, are, in general, quite destitute, having taken nothing with them but a few household goods, as there was hardly any merchandise worth carrying away.

The loss of the merchants of this country who traded to South-Carolina alone, before the war, is calculated at the enormous sum of 700,000 sterling.

The mercantile world is in a hurry and bustle, unknown at any former time. The merchants are endeavouring to out ship each other in the race of traffic. European goods, and particularly the produce of England, being greatly wanted in all parts of America, the destination of many of the vessels now in the river is altered from the West India islands to the American ports, where it is expected their cargoes will sell at an immense profit.

If the Floridas be ceded to Spain by the new treaty, they will turn out the first objects of American ambition, and will shortly cause a breach between the states and Spain.

The Dutch now find themselves in a disagreeable position. Left to negotiate for themselves, the advantages are too many against them. And if we consider the internal state of their affairs, it must appear that peace at any price is desirable to them.

Feb. 4. It is resolved in council, that a large body of marines shall be kept up during the peace, in case of a sudden rupture; as they have been found the most useful body of troops in the kingdom during the last war, both by sea and land, where they have equally distinguished themselves.

There could not (says a correspondent) have been so ruinous a peace to England as the present. After the loss of one hundred millions of money and more than one hundred thousand men, we have lost by it all America, Mahoa, Pologo, and Senegal; given back the superior Rate of the East-Indies in Chandernagore and Pondicherry; the same in Africa in Senegal and Goree; and a decided superiority over us in the West-Indies, by restoring St. Lucia.

No mischief to Britain (says the same writer) was ever equal to that done in the administration of lord Rockingham, and completed in lord Shelburne's; who, with all his boasted talents, has not shewn the wisdom of a child; who has had recourse to shops and wine cellars, to find negotiators to ruin his country.

Extract of a letter from the Paris Bas, January 30.

"Peace is no sooner signed between France, Spain, and England, than all the horrors of war are like to take place on the continent. The emperor, it is said, with other powers, is bent upon driving the Turks out of Europe; in which case France must assist the latter; nay perhaps, even the pope, and the Italian states. The king of Prussia is directing the Hollanders, as Louis the sixteenth has the Genevois.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, February 2.

"The duke of Athol, colonel Murray, and lord George Lennox, commander in chief in Scotland, have been down here: but the Athol Highlanders are still determined not to go to the East-Indies. They have put up their arms and ammunition into one of the magazines, and placed a very strong guard over them, whilst the rest of the regiment sleep and refresh themselves. They come regularly and quietly to the grand parade, very cleanly dressed, twice a day. Their adjutant and other officers parade with them. One day it was proposed to turn the great guns on the ramparts against the Highlanders; but that scheme was soon over-ruled. Another time it was suggested to send for some marching regiments quartered near this place; upon which the Highlanders drew up the draw-bridges, and placed sentinels at them.

"The 81st, another Highland regiment aboard the Indiamen, have also insisted on being disembarked, and we hear that they are to disembark on Tuesday. The Athol Highlanders are then to march to Guilford, on their way home.

"An English regiment, embarked for the West-Indies, insisted likewise on being relanded, and cut the cables of their transports, and are now in the barracks here. The Athol Highlanders are quartered among the town's people; they do not all appear to be Highlanders. There are indeed some of Struan Robertson's men amongst them, and a few of the Glin Ammon people, and Stuarts of Appin, and Camerons of Lochiel; but they chiefly consist of young lads from Perth, Glasgow, Dundee, and Montrose, amounting in the whole to near 1000 men. The most of them attended the worship of God to-day, it being Sabbath, and have placed sentinels all round for fear of being surprised.

"The inns are full of company from London, and the country people from Sussex and twenty miles round flock in to see the Highlanders."

B O S T O N, April 10.

Yesterday afternoon arrived here the Fire-Brand, captain Frazier, in 35 days from Amsterdam, but late from Dover, in the English Channel, in 29 days; we hear the lay several days at the latter port near two

British 74 gun ships of war, with American colours flying, and that no notice was taken of it.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, April 19.

Yesterday morning captain Makey, in a brig, arrived here in nine days from Charles-town, but brings nothing new from that quarter. Off the capes of Virginia he saw several British cruisers.

By letters from London, of the beginning of February, we learn, that it was reported that lord Surrey was pointed out as ambassador from that court to the United States, and that his lordship would shortly embark for this city.

Extract of a letter from Lisbon, dated February 11.

"We most cordially congratulate you on the peace, and presume, that a considerable intercourse will now take place between America and Portugal, trade being happily freed from the arbitrary restrictions of England. We imagine that congress will judge it expedient to form a commercial treaty with Portugal; in which case it is probable the negotiators will have or less to insist that the sales of wheat, brought from America, should be free and open as formerly; at present it is subject to a heavy duty, and can be sold no where but in the corn market, in which the sale is taken out of the proprietors hands; this duty was imposed in consequence of the war with America."

The ship Africa, captain Derby, arrived at Salem, on Friday the 4th instant, after 22 days passage, from France. By her was received a copy of a declaration for a cessation of hostilities, signed by the American commissioners at Paris, the 20th of February last.

Notice of six ships for Virginia and Maryland, was put up at the Royal Exchange, London, the 28th of January, to sail without convoy.

April 20. Accounts from New-York mention, that the last embarkation of refugees, consisting of near 5000 souls, sailed from thence on Thursday last for Nova Scotia. That orders had been issued for reinstating those virtuous citizens who had left their property on the invasion of the British forces in 1776; and they were accordingly admitted into the British lines, for the purpose of settling their affairs with those persons who have held their estates in the course of the war.

April 26 We hear Mr. Carmichael, secretary to the commission at Madrid, from America, has, in the absence of Mr. Jay, who is at Paris, been received at the court of Spain as the minister of the Independent States of America.

Extract of a letter from l'Orient, dated March 14.

"An embargo is laid in England upon all the vessels which were fitting out for America, of which there were many, till the treaty of commerce is settled, or till it is known if they will be admitted into the ports of the United States.

"The queen of Portugal has issued her royal decree, ordering all her ports to be opened to the citizens of America, and that they are to enjoy all the privileges that other foreigners do."

A N N A P O L I S, May 1.

Official Intelligence being received by his Excellency the Governor of a general Cessation of Hostilities, last 13th day was appointed as the Day of public Rejoicings. A convenient, extensive, and occasional Building, was erected on Carroll's Green, sufficient for the Accommodation of many Hundreds; Thirteen Pieces of Artillery were planted opposite, and an elegant and plentiful Dinner provided.

The Proclamation, by his Excellency's Command, being read by the High Sheriff, and Thirteen Cannon discharged, to announce the glorious and ever-memorable Event; the Gentlemen then retired to Dinner; at which were present, his Excellency the Governor, the honourable Council, many Members of the Senate and Delegates of Assembly, and a great Number of Gentlemen both of Town and Country; who with unfeigned Satisfaction congratulated each other on the Blessings of Peace—the rising Glory of their Country—the Prospects of her Commerce—her future Grandeur and Importance in the Scale of Nations.

After Dinner the following truly liberal, generous and patriotic Toasts were drank, each attended with Thirteen Cannon:

1. The third of February 1783, in perpetual Memory, on which Day a virtuous War was concluded by an honourable Peace.

2. The United States; may their Confederacy endure for ever.

3. Friendship with France:—May every Nation imitate the Depth and Moderation of her Policy, by which the Freedom of Navigation has been secured, the Liberty of these States confirmed, and the Blessings of Peace and Commerce diffused throughout the Globe.

4. His Excellency General Washington.

5. The Generals, Officers and Soldiers of our Army: May their Services be remembered, and generously rewarded by a grateful People.

6. The French Generals, Officers and Troops, who served in America.

7. The Marquis of Fayette: May our posterity ever retain a grateful sense of his strong Attachment to this Country, and of the important Services rendered it in the Field and Cabinet.

8. The immortal Memory of the gallant Soldiers and virtuous Citizens who gloriously fell in the late War.

9. The Patriots of America: Honours crown their labours; may future Ages revere their memory, and emulate their Fame.

10. The United Netherlands, and the friendly Powers in Europe.

11. May the Influence of the present Revolution be extended to all the Nations of the Earth, by introducing among them that Spirit of Humanity, and religious Toleration, which has so peculiarly distinguished this Country, and united the Efforts of all Denominations of Christians in the Support of Freedom.

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